6. विशिष्ट प्रौद्योगिकियों का क्रियान्वयन अर्थात लक्ष्य वेधन को बढ़ाकर अनुप्रस्थ तथा नालिका छिद्र वेधन।

Incidents of Drowning of PAC men in Okhla Canal

357. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 9 PAC men drowned in Okhla canal on 3.11.95 while taking trial of a motor boat;

(b) whether Government have ordered any probe into the accident;

(c) whether the Navy has passed the boats and finally these were on trial;

(d) whether Government propose to black-list the firm which bad supplied boats; and

(e) the further reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional Director General of Police, PAC Uttar Pradesh and I.G., PAC, Moradabad have conducted a. preliminary enquiry. Detailed enquiry is being conducted by DIG, PAC Meerut.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Since the boats are being purchased by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, a decision in this regard lies with the State Government.

पासपोर्ट कार्यालय, लखनऊ में धांधली

358. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** :

श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगें कि:

(क) क्या क्षेत्रीय पासपोर्ट कार्यालय, लखनऊ द्वारा जून, 1994 के दौरान पासपोर्ट जारी करने में धांधली करने वाले किसी गिरोह का पता लगाया गया हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं; और

(ग) उन कार्यालयों, जिन्होने ऐसे पासपोर्ट प्राप्त करने के लिए जाली प्रमाण पत्र दिए थे, के विरूद्व क्या कार्यवाही की गई हैं?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर.एल. भाटिया) : (क) से (ग) सरकार को क्षेत्रीय पासपोर्ट कार्यालय, लखनऊ में सक्रिय किसी ऐसे गिरोह की जानकारी नहीं हैं जो पासपोर्ट जारी करने के कदाचार के लिए उत्तर दायी हैं। तथापि, क्षेत्रीय पासपोर्ट कार्यालय, लखनऊ के दो कर्मचारियों के विरूद्व जांच-पड़ताल की जा रही हैं।

Request to US to stop arms supply to Pakistan

359. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the efforts made to impress upon USA not to precipitate an arms race in the sub-continent and stop all arms supply to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): India's serious concern in this regard was conveyed unambiguously at each stage of the Congressional legislative process to the US Administration and to US Congressmen and Senators.

Indo-Pak Relations

360. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the various reasons for the poor Indo-Pak relations;

(b) whether Government have responded to the references made by Pakistan on the International fora regarding Kashmir;

(c) if so, the reaction of Pakistan Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken to normalise the relations between both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) Government are committed to the normalisation of relations with Pakistan and the resolution of all lndo-Pakistan issues through direct bilateral discussions

as envisaged in the Simla Agreement. Government have repeatedly, made known their desire to resume a direct bilateral dialogue without any preconditions. Pakistan has, however, not responded positively and continues to promote and support trans-border terrorism directed against India. Government are firmly resolved to take all necessary measures to counter terrorism promoted and supported by Pakistan.

In Pursuit of its policy to internationalise the J&K issue, Pakistan raises it at various international fora. Government make suitable responses wherever appropriate.

Terrorist Activities in Himachal Pradesh

361. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindi daily "Dainik Jagran" dated the 13th October, 1995 under the caption 'Kukhyat Atankvadiyon ka Kendra banta ja raha hai Himachal';

(b) if so, the number of terrorists nabbed in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that foreign trained militants have established their strongholds in other States of the country also, if so, the names of these States; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being obtained from States/Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Under the VIIth Schedule to the Constitution, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. It is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps in this regard. At the Central level action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-terrorist operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of terrorist/insurgency activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc.

News-Item Regarding deaths in Judicial Custody

362. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Indian Express of 4th October, 1995 under the caption "Delhi tops in judicial custody deaths";

(b) if so, what are the full details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) necessary action taken thereon by Government as a corrective step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 49 prisoners died in Central Jail, Tihar between April, 1994 and June, 1995. Details are enclosed in the Statement, *(see* below)

In all these cases inquest under Section 176 of Code of Criminal Procedure have been conducted. Inquest reports have been received in 45 cases and an interim report has been received in one case. From the reports, it is ascertained that 14 prisoners died due to Tuberculosis and 24 from other natural causes. 7 prisoners committed suicide and one prisoner died due to beating by jail staff.

(d) The following measures have been taken by the Government:—

(i) One additional hospital has been constructed in Jail No. 4.